

## OUR POLITICAL DUTY.

From the Rocky Mountain News.

Senator Teller concedes to the unification of the silver interest in Colorado, and the inspiring example it furnished other mountain states, a potential influence at Minneapolis. He says that but for this the Republican convention, in addition to nominating Harrison for president, would have adopted an out and out single gold standard platform.

This is a plain confession of the power that dominated the Minneapolis convention. That it did not declare in unambiguous language for monometallism, in lieu of a dishonest straddle intended to be differently construed in the east and west, was from no lack of will or power, but solely from motives of policy, in the hope of duping the silver producing and agricultural sections of the country.

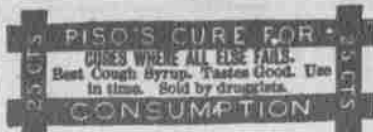
A convention, admittedly under single standard control, would not be likely to nominate any but a monometallist for the office of president, and Mr. Teller does not indicate a doubt that such is the character of its nominee. Indeed he freely expresses his disappointment at the selection of Harrison, and could not do otherwise with a semblance of good grace, since he divides with his coadjutor, Senator Wolcott, the honor of having effectually demonstrated to the people of Colorado President Harrison's inveterate hostility to bimetalism. This each of our senators has done with a vigor of language that will bear reproduction and prove instructive reading in the pending campaign, doubtless with the result of reinforcing and solidifying the forces of silver against both of the gold-bug presidential nominees, and in favor of General Weaver, the only candidate who represents the producing population of the United States on the financial question.

Senator Teller's admission in his recent statement in the *Republican* of the potency of the Colorado silver movements should have weight with his many friends. It should encourage renewed loyalty to that movement and a determination to unswervingly prosecute the fight on independent lines to a victorious conclusion. When, however, Senator Teller cites the fact that the power which was supreme at Minneapolis, bent to the force of organized opinion in the mountain section, merely as an interlude to advising the dispersion of silver's army and the support of silver's determined enemy, he manifests a truckling weakness that will not suit the present temper of Colorado.

If the people can only prove their power before party conventions and must disband when, as in this case, their enemies have captured the party machinery, dictated the party policy and selected the candidate for the presidency, what is the use of organizing for free coinage at all, and whence is relief to come?

Relief from the grinding oppression of an abnormal and unholy money power will only come by cutting loose from hackneyed partisan methods and professional self-seekers, whether designated as politicians or dignified with the title of statesman. The people cannot compete with corporate wealth and greed in handling the old party machinery. So long as they continue that hopeless policy, the stringency of the times will increase, and the power of wealth concentrated in few hands will assume even more dangerous proportions.

The crisis calls for independent popular action, inspired not by mistaken conception of duty to party, but by common sense and patriotic dictates of duty to self, home and country.



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